THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, May 13, 1805.

Intereſting Particulars of the Imperial Family of Auſtria.

[From Kuttner's Travels.]

DURING the laſt years of the life of the Empreſs Maria Thereſa many wiſe ordinances, and many wholeſome alterations were made. Reſpecting the government of that princeſs, very erroneons ideas prevail in the north of Germany; and her rigid principles in matters of religion have been ſeverely cenſured. This cauſe may probably have retarded the progreſs of information among the people; but thoſe are grofsly miſtaken who conſider her as a woman that ſuffered herſelf to be ruled by monks and prieſts. She well knew how to maintain her authority over theſe claſſes of men, notwithſtanding the reverence ſhe paid them; and ſome one has very juſtly deſcribed her conduct, by ſaying, " that ſhe kiſſed the feet of the prieſts, in order to tie their hands." Much, however, yet remained to be done, that could not be expected of a perſon already advanced in years. The cuſtoms and prejudices of early life impoſe upon us a thouſand ſhackles, which our youthful ſucceſſors ſometimes ſuddenly ſhake off. She was, beſides, well aware that her ſubjects were not ripe for many innovations, and this point her ſucceſſor frequently overlooked.

Joſeph advanced with rapid ſtrides in his reformation of religion. To many things the people muſt become accuſtomed by degrees; otherwiſe it only irritates and drives them into open oppoſition. Such was the caſe with his ordinance relative to burials, which was calculated for frigid philoſophers, but not for the multitude. The prohibition of interment in coffins occaſioned ſo many diſturbances, that in 1785 he was obliged to repeal it. A remarkable letter of his on this ſubject is pre-

ſerved, in which he ſays, " that he adopted this meaſure from the beſt motives, in order to reſtrain the extravagant luxury frequently diſplayed at funerals; to render the expence of interment leſs oppreſſive to the poor; and to provide a partial remedy for the ſcarcity and dearneſs of wood, particularly at Vienna. But as it had given his ſubjects offence, and they manifeſted greater diſcontent with that edict than any others he had iſſued, he would repeal it." On the ſame principle he, doubtleſs, tolerated many religious cuſtoms and inſtitutions, which to a Proteſtant, who has never lived among Catholics, muſt appear very ſtriking.

Joſeph likewiſe introduced many improvements and alterations of a civil nature, from which Vienna ſtill derives great advantage. The general embelliſhment of the town, that excellent inſtitution, the ſchool of ſurgery, the newly-erected hoſpitals for the poor and the ſick, together with the improvements made in thoſe already eſtabliſhed, and many other things of a ſimilar nature, ſtill remain as monuments of his political ability.

The inſtitutions for the prevention of fires are an honour to the police of this city. Inſtances illuſtrative of the effects of any inſtitution on the public opinion are frequently more ſatisfactory than the moſt circumſtantial deſcriptions. Being once in a houſe in the Carinthian-ſtreet, which is very narrow, a great noiſe was ſuddenly raiſed in the ſtreet, about ſeven in the evening. " What's the matter?" exclaimed the ſtrangers who were in the company. " Only a fire," replied the natives, with the utmoſt compoſure. We were ſoon informed that it was in the fourth houſe from us; but there was not an individual in the family but what manifeſted the ſame indifference as if it had been ſeveral miles off. I likewiſe learned, that there exiſts not an inſtance of a houſe having been burned down in the city; and that even if a fire breaks out in an upper ſtory, the inhabitants never think of removing the effects from thoſe below it. In caſes of fire, whether in the city or ſuburbs, the preſent emperor, like his uncle Joſeph, always repairs to the ſpot, and for this purpoſe a horſe is kept ready ſaddled both night and day.

On the above occaſion, a general in the imperial ſervice related the following anecdote of Joſeph's courage, or, as ſome may call it, temerity. During a great fire at Semlin, that prince was preſent, and was directing the operations for extinguiſhing it. A ſtranger came and informed an officer, who now holds the rank of general, that the next houſe to that in which the fire raged with the greateſt violence, and oppoſite to which Joſeph had placed himſelf, was the dwelling of an Armenian merchant, who dealt largely in ſmuggled gun-powder, and that at the moment he had in his houſe fifty-two caſks of that combuſtible.

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The officer inſtantly acquainted the emperor with this intelligence, and ſolicited his majeſty to retire. Joſeph, with great compoſure, enquired from whom he had received the information; and upon the confirmation of the report, he ordered the affair to be inveſtigated, without ſtirring from the ſpot during the whole time. The officer, inſtead of fifty-two caſks, found five tons of powder; the emperor gave directions for their removal, and was, with difficulty, prevailed upon to quit the ſpot.

If any prince has proved what powerful effects may be produced by a ſovereign on his ſubjects, and particularly the inhabitants of the metropolis, it is Joſeph II. Many of his reforms were of ſuch a nature, that their effects could not be perceived 'till after his death. He gave the public mind a bias, in which it continued long after his deceaſe; and probably that prince would himſelf be filled with aſtoniſhment at many things, could he again re-viſit Vienna.

During his laſt illneſs, Joſeph, having been a conſiderable time under the hands of his phyſicians, who had always given him hopes of his recovery, ſent for Baron von Quarin. This celebrated phyſician is reported to be infallible in his deciſions on life and death; at leaſt it is pretended, that no perſon can recollect an inſtance in which he was ever miſtaken in his opinions on this ſubject. "A private perſon," ſaid the monarch on his arrival, "may be ready to die at any time; but for an emperor ſome preparation is neceſſary. I expect you to acquaint me with your opinion of my ſituation." Quarin, after a long and thorough examination, told him, without reſerve, that he could not poſſibly recover. Joſeph thanked him for his candour; and aſked him how long he thought he might ſtill live. The phyſician replied, that perſons in his ſituation might be ſnatched away between one day and another, but that he could ſcarcely ſurvive a fortnight at the utmoſt. The emperor ſhook hands with him, and, after repeating his thanks, he diſmiſſed him. When he afterwards felt his diſſolution approaching, he ſent the phyſician a patent, by which he was created a baron, and a preſent of 10,000 gulden (upwards of 1000l.) together with a note in his own hand writing, expreſſive of his gratitude for the ſincerity and candour with which he had treated him. The monarch then awaited his death with that fortitude and compoſure by which his mother and his grandfather Charles VI. had been diſtinguiſhed.

Previous to his deceaſe, he went through all the ceremonies of the catholic religion, and received extreme unction. I enquired whether he had done this merely for the ſake of example and decorum, or out of internal conviction; and his phyſician confirmed what I had frequently heard before, namely, that Joſeph II. was a Catholic Chriſtian and not a deiſt. Baron Quarin

denies that the emperor had exhauſted his conſtitution by exceſſes, as was at firſt reported; and aſſerts, that a fall from his horſe was the cauſe that principally contributed to his death.

Of the deciſive tone in which Baron von Quarin ſpeaks, in certain caſes, I myſelf witneſſed ſometime ſince a ſtriking inſtance, during the illneſs of the late arch-ducheſs, lately deceaſed. Being ſent for, he went to ſee her, and immediately declared that he had been called too late. In the mean time the other phyſicians continued to attend her; and as frequent enquiries were made in company concerning her health, a report was propagated that ſhe was better. Nevertheleſs, Quarin, wherever he went, ſaid, without reſerve, "She muſt die." As I was frequently in his company, I was not a little ſtruck with his repeated expreſſion of "She muſt die." About ten days after he had pronounced this opinion, ſhe expired.

Joſeph died in 1790, and left many deſigns unfiniſhed. Much that he had done was merely by way of experiment, and could only be completed and brought to maturity by a man like himſelf.

Leopold was totally incapable of overlooking the vaſt extent of the Auſtrian monarchy. He came with a little mind from the government of a little country; and with feeble hand annulled the projects and regulations of his predeceſſor, whoſe ſpirit he was unable to comprehend. He was an excellent grand duke of Tuſcany, and that country is indebted to him for many things, by which it is diſtinguiſhed from the other Italian ſtates. In the wide-extended rule of the Auſtrian monarchy, on whoſe throne fate had placed him at the moſt unfavourable period, he ſoon loſt all the celebrity he had before acquired. It was he, however, who granted to the Hungarians the celebrated edict relative to religion, which even goes farther than that of his predeceſſor, and removes all the diſtinction which exiſted in Hungary on account of the difference of religious opinions. It was a great idea, and worthy of a citizen of the world; but perhaps this edict is one of the meaſures of Leopold's adminiſtration, with which the preſent government is not perfectly ſatisfied.

The reigning monarch treads, on the whole, in Joſeph's foot-ſteps, whom he appears in various reſpects to have taken for his model. He was, in ſome meaſure, the pupil of Joſeph; and was more intimately acquainted with his principles and projects, than his father Leopold. But ſince his acceſſion to the government, the times have greatly altered, and the ſpirit of the cabinet of Vienna has been obliged to change with them.

I have already mentioned the ſimplicity that prevails in every thing belonging to the reigning family of Auſtria. It was firſt introduced

introduced by Joſeph II. who carried it to that degree in which it is retained by the preſent emperor. Francis II. is not of opinion that the imperial dignity conſiſts in being ſurrounded with chamberlains, life-guards, and attendants. He ſcarcely ever appears in public, but alone with the empreſs. I was once ſtanding on the rampart, reading an inſcription on a houſe, when a man in a grey ſurtout paſſed by with a female very ſimply dreſſed. I did not obſerve them, when my companion, a foreigner, aſked: "Who can they be? Every perſon that meets them takes off his hat." I followed them, and found that it was the emperor and empreſs. It is impoſſible to return the ſalutations he receives with greater politeneſs; and as every one who knows him takes off his hat, I have ſeen him proceed more than ten paces together on the rampart bare-headed. When he goes to the theatre in the city, no notice whatever is taken of him; but he lately appeared at one of the ſmaller theatres in the ſuburbs, and the audience clapped. I looked round; all remained ſeated, and the clapping continued. At length I obſerved a man, very ſimply dreſſed, and a female, who were making low bows. Some of the audience conceiving that the clapping laſted too long, becauſe it hindered the performance, hiſſed, and the houſe was ſoon quiet. One party intended no offence, and the other was not obſtinate. "What a difference," ſaid I to my neighbour, "between Vienna and London!" There this oppoſition would excite ſuch a ferment in the houſe, that tranquillity would not be reſtored perhaps for a quarter of an hour. The clappers would continue with the greater violence, becauſe they were deſired to be ſilent, and the hiſſing would become louder in the ſame proportion. The galleries would reſound with the cries of throw him over, throw him over! the hiſſing would be conſidered as an affront to the royal family; orange-peel would fly about in all directions; and a roar of ſilence! would thunder amid the cry of throw him over!

The princes of the houſe of Auſtria have been in general cheriſhed by their people, and the preſent ſovereign is beloved by them in a very high degree. His extreme ſimplicity, his affable demeanour, his unoſtentatious appearance on ordinary occaſions, the confidence with which he walks, unattended, among his people, the facility with which every one can obtain acceſs to his perſon, his benevolence in admitting his ſubjects to a participation in all his gardens, and even in his palaces, his excellent moral character and conjugal virtues, his decided averſion to capital puniſhments,* his great frugality in all that relates

* I am informed, that not a ſingle criminal has been executed during his reign. It is not by any means my intention to vindicate this diſinclination to capital puniſhments, as a principle, but I merely mention it as a hiſtorical fact.

lates to himſelf and his houſehold, are qualities which cannot fail to produce an effect on a people poſſeſſing ſuch a high degree of good-nature as the Auſtrians. He is extremely beloved; and his enemies are thoſe of his people. The enmity of the inhabitants of Vienna to the French, and even to the Pruſſians, is very great.

Mr. Juſtice Hardinge's Pathetic Addreſs to Mary Morgan, convicted of the Murder of her illegitimate Child.

AT the Radnorſhire ſpring great ſeſſions, held at Preſteign, there was not a ſingle cauſe. Four priſoners were tried for capital offences, but three of them being acquitted, the only one that excited particular attention was Mary Morgan, aged not more than 16 years, arraigned for the murder of her illegitimate child, of which ſhe was found guilty, condemned, and executed near Preſteign on Saturday, April 20, 1805. Previouſly to her trial and conviction, ſhe exhibited no impreſſion of guilt, or apprehenſion of her fate; but from the time of her condemnation on Thurſday, 'till the next morning, ſhe was much agitated. After, however, an interview that morning with her father, ſhe again appeared unconcerned, and liſtened not at all to the advice given her to prepare for the near approaching hour of her diſſolution. This was afterwards found to be owing to a plan which had been formed for, and her certain hope of eſcaping, the following night. Such intention being diſcovered, ſhe was removed from her former room of confinement in the gaol to one of greater ſecurity; and from that time, all hopes of eſcape being gone, ſhe became more alarmed, and employed herſelf as one becoming her ſituation, and died truly penitent.

The Rev. Mr. Scott (brother to the counteſs of Oxford), Mr. Davies, the under-ſheriff, and John Brown, Eſq. of Preſteign, humanely viſited her almoſt continually from the time of ſentence to that of execution, endeavouring, with all their abilities, to prepare and bring this poor young creature to die in the reſigned and ſubmiſſive manner which ſhe did. We are alſo happy to add, that before her diſſolution, ſhe made a full confeſſion of her guilt; and, without the leaſt embarraſſment or heſitation, declared the father of the child to be a man in the ſervice of her maſter as a waggoner.

Mr. Juſtice Hardinge's Addreſs previous to paſſing Sentence.

" Mary Morgan—Upon evidence, which leaves not a ſhade of doubt in the mind, you are convicted of murdering your child, a new-born infant, of your own ſex, the offspring of your ſecret and vicious love; murdering it with a knife, ſelected as the

the implement of a purpoſe deliberately formed, before its deſtined victim came into the world.

" Your hatred of this innocent little ſufferer could not have been your motive. It never offended you, and was therefore no object of reſentment. It is true, that if the child had lived, it would have proved your crime in its birth; and your ſhame would have been the conſequence of that proof. But was this a reaſon to kill and murder it? If its firſt cries to you (its natural parent) for ſuſtenance and care made it by force your living accuſer, could this be a reaſon to huſh thoſe cries, and ſtifle that breath (of the unconſcious witneſs againſt you) with a knife that nearly ſevered the head from the neck? Had it lived, you might have loſt your place; you might have loſt other places; you might have ſunk into poverty as well as into ſhame; but was this a reaſon to kill an infant? Was it a reaſon to acquire a falſe character, with a guilty conſcience upon your pillow, and cries of the murdered infant at your ear? When did this fear of ſhame and poverty begin? Was it an obſtacle in the way of your criminal intercourſe with your lover? No; when you had criminal paſſions to indulge, and criminal pleaſures to enjoy, you had no fear of the riſk. When thoſe paſſions were ſatiated, and thoſe pleaſures were accuſers in their bitter fruit, then you became ſuch a coward, that you have ſacrificed your infant's life, the peace and intereſt of your ſoul here and hereafter, to that new-born fear. Alas! how dreadful are the landing places of guilt, when it aſcends in its progreſs! You began with incontinence, criminal in itſelf, but full of complicated peril in its tendency to worſe crimes. Your next guilt was a maſk to the world in the concealment of your pregnancy, which (beſides the vicious art of the impoſture) was dangerous to the child you had conceived. Your laſt crime was the murder of that child inflicted by yourſelf.

" You have murdered that human creature, who, of all others upon earth, had the moſt affecting right, as well as claim, to your mercy and your love; the offſpring of your own guilt, and guilt entailed upon it in ſome degree by the ſhame of its deſcent. At your wild and youthful age, undiſciplined, I fear, as well as unenlightened, and with ſuch early habits and depraved ſelf-indulgence, it is not probable that a religion, like that of the New Teſtament, which breathes in every page of it love to infants, could have been impreſſed upon your mind.

" But the God of nature has written a book, which ' he that runs may read.' You have read that book, and the letters of it were ſtamped upon your feelings at your birth. It was a law written upon the living and glowing tablets of the heart, which told you, how unjuſt it was to puniſh the offſpring of your guilt; for the life you had forced upon it by that guilt alone, you ſhould

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have exerted every moment of your own life in atoning, by redoubled attention to a daughter ſo born, for the calamity of ſuch a birth. Inſtead of bracing yourſelf to this atonement, you were deaf to her infant crimes, and you averted the repetition of them with a murdering hand.

" In this choice of difficulties—in this conflict of chances, what is it you have done? You have encountered the peril of detection and of puniſhment, by a death of ſhame, as the murderer of your child. You have taken the chance of dying impenitent, or with a conſcience ill prepared for ſo awful a change, as from this life into the judgments of eternity. You have taken the chance—had you eſcaped from human detection—had you impoſed upon the world ever ſo well—of lingering torments, upon the rack of a life ſelf-accuſed, and ſelf-accurſed.

" Thus it is that one guilt produces another, eſpecially in your ſex, when gendered into its criminal intercourſe with our's. The natural delicacy and modeſty of the female character entangle all its progreſs in guilt, and a ſucceſſion of accumulated crimes is generated by the fear (if not by the ſenſe) of ſhame. At laſt the energies of the mind are half buried in the confuſion of ſhifted expedients to eſcape from the importunate eye of the world; but there is another eye—' about the path, and about the bed,' from which no darkneſs can ſeclude, and from which ' no ſecrets are hid.' That eye never is cloſed, and brings to light guilt like your's, in a manner for which the ſagacity of human conjecture deſpairs to account.

" Guilt is always a coward; guilt like your's prompts the offender to accuſe herſelf, and prove her crime by evidence of the fact in a moment of deſpair, fear, or ſurpriſe. Madneſs like this comes too late: it is the effect, and the doom of guilt; it is no ſhelter for it. You have no plea of ſudden impulſe to this act (not that any ſuch plea could avail you, if in fact it exiſted); your's was a deliberate murder: the implement of death's wound obtained, and ſet apart for its deſtined office and victim: had you eſcaped, many other girls (thoughtleſs and light as you have been) would have been encouraged by that eſcape to commit your crime, with hopes of your impunity; the merciful turn of your example will ſave them. Deſperate acts like theſe very often eſcape from puniſhment; merciful juries, merciful rules of law, and merciful judges, give numerous occaſions to that impunity; if it is a defect, I hope it will never be repaired; but the ſame juries, the ſame law, and the ſame judges, are firm to their truſt in a caſe like your's. The life that you have deſtroyed loſt its natural parent, when you were its executioner, for guilt of your own. It found a parent in Heaven: there is not a more ſacred object of that parent's love (whoſe children we all of us are) than a new-born child, created in his image. Its blood is like that of Abel; it cries from the earth, and its

complaint is noted in Heaven. What your inducement was to ſacrifice this pledge of your love, and your crime, we have no means to aſcertain: your conſcience knows it well; but we are able to know, that it muſt have been ſelfiſh and cruel.

"I have talked with you hitherto as a judge, preparing and bound by his painful office to inflict the penalty of death upon his convicted priſoner before him; but look up to me! I can give you comfort, and can tell you, without impairing the weight of your doom in this world, that you can turn away your eyes to the judge of us all, whoſe mercy has no limits, and whom no ſinner can implore in vain, if the tears of penitence and remorſe are deep and ſincere. You muſt have expected your fate; and I hope in God that you have prepared yourſelf by a new made heart, for a better world, having made all the human atonement in your power upon earth. To cut off a young creature like you, in the morning of life's day (for it is little more than a day to the oldeſt of us all), is an affliction thrown upon me, which I have no power to deſcribe, or to bear, ſo well as perhaps I ſhould. You muſt not think we are cruel; it is to ſave other infants like your's, and many other girls like you, from the pit into which you are fallen: your ſentence and your death are mercy to them: if you have repented of your impious crime, it is mercy to yourſelf. Had you eſcaped, your mind and conſcience would, or might have been ſo depraved, that mercy, winged as it is, could not reach it in time. You have now the tears and prayers of all around you. In our abhorrence of your crime, we have not loſt our compaſſion for your fate, nor our zealous hope, that you will find mercy at the judgement ſeat of a redeeming interceſſor, who died for you; that is, who died, that penitent ſinners, through him, ſhould be reſcued from the doom they had incurred, and ſhould expiate their pollutions in the atonement of his blood.

"I am now to paſs upon you the awful ſentence of your legal, your juſt, and your inevitable doom in this world. [Here he delivered the ſentence in a very impreſſive manner, and proceeded thus:]

"You have heard the ſentence, and the imperious will of the law. It affects your body alone; your ſoul it cannot reach—it is in the hands of your God. May that fountain of infinite love ſhew mercy to it, when it ſhall appear before him upon the day of its final judgement. May it there be acquitted, and bleſt!"

PARISIAN FASHIONS.

MANY hats are ſeen with a very projecting peak of yellow ſtraw, and a ground of roſe or lapis velvet. A trimming

of lapis velvet reintroduces a cloth vigogue great coat into fashion. The neck collars, formed into large teeth, are constantly very fashionable, but it is more fashionable to wear them unplaited than plaited. Lace friezes on morning hats are fashionable. Some milliners adapt to night caps, trimmings festooned into small teeth. The form of a quiver is still worn on the top of combs. The fashion of wearing combs placed on the side of the head is probably derived from the shape of those quivers.

Every person wears a shawl, but every person does not know how to put it on. To draper it is the grand mystery. In the morning it must be worn as a large neck-handkerchief, but in the evening, unfolded in all its extent: the shawl should figure a tragic mantle, so that a *belle* thus drapered, with an embroidered edged gown, a diadem, or a head-band, her arms naked, and her shoes in sandals, resembles Phædra, Ariana, or Agrippina.

Precious stones, jewels, diamonds, and kerseymeres, are only worn by married ladies; a young miss must not wear all these; a simple white pair of jumps, a white lawn petticoat, and a white ribband carelessly press her waist; nothing on her head, or at most a single flower; this is the dress of a young lady.—The above is the fashion of the day, and certainly not the least reasonable.

Short coats continue to be worn. The undress costume supports itself even in the most fashionable circles; but, however, no frock coats are seen; short coats alone, with very high open pockets, are now the fashionable undress.

A Sketch of the Political State of Europe at the beginning of the Sixteenth Century.

[From Mr. Mill's Translation of Villers on the Spirit and Influence of the Reformation of Luther.]

FROM the wreck of the Roman empire in the west was formed, on the soil of Europe, a number of states, at the head of which in general were the leaders of those tribes of the north which had overthrown the empire. Weak and powerful by turns, and long without cohesion, they changed their masters and their form at the will of events; they were seen to rise, increase, decline, and fall; and amid all these vicissitudes, few ideas appeared of an union, of a confederacy among the weak to oppose the strong, and not a shadow as yet of that great and prolific conception, an equilibrium among the powers. Meanwhile the feudal aristocracy lost by degrees its cohesion. The crusades and other wars which had impoverished the nobility;

bility; commerce and induſtry which had enriched the claſs of citizens; the diffuſion among them of knowledge which awakened the ſenſe of the natural privileges and rights of man, procured at laſt, in ſpite of all reſiſtance, the eſtabliſhment of a political exiſtence for the third eſtate, the order of the people, and of their influence in the government of the nation. The members of ſome cities, which conſtituted themſelves free, dared even to diſtribute the ſovereignty among themſelves, which was not without ſome effect upon general opinion, at that time ſo involved in darkneſs, and fed with prejudices.

Italy, divided into a great number of feeble ſtates, ſome monarchical, others republican, torn to pieces by the jealouſy and hatred of thoſe little communities toward one another, by the mutinous barons and great lords who aſpired to independence, was ſtill the unhappy ſcene of the invaſions of its powerful neighbours, the French, Germans, and Spaniards, who all ſtrove to obtain in it a firm footing, one at Naples, another at Milan, Mantua, and ſo on. That fine country was given up to ravages, which ſucceeded one another without end. Its feeble ſovereigns, at one time ranging themſelves on the ſide of a powerful conqueror, at another jealous of his progreſs, and plotting his expulſion from their country, ſaved themſelves in general only by perfidy, and by an artful and knaviſh policy, which from that period has been one of the leading features in the Italian character. This country, which had long been the richeſt in Europe, and the centre of all commerce, was on the eve of beholding this ſource of its wealth dried up by means of the new paths of commerce which had juſt been opened upon the ocean by the Portugueſe.

The Turks had lately taken poſſeſſion of the capital of the eaſtern empire, and had carried weſt their victorious arms into Calabria, Hungary, and to the very gates of Vienna.

Poland abandoned during the courſe of the ſixteenth century to the convulſions of an anarchical ariſtocracy, and conſuming its whole ſtrength within itſelf, was inſignificant abroad. In the northern part of it, the knights of the Teutonic order, had, under the pretext of converting the infidels, eſtabliſhed a dominion, the origin of the kingdom of Pruſſia.

Ruſſia did not as yet exiſt with regard to the weſt of Europe, where ſhe has ſince acquired ſo great an aſcendancy.

Sweden and Denmark were nearly as inſignificant with regard to the ſouthern countries. The kings of Denmark, after many wars, and viciſſitudes, had reduced Sweden, which bore with impatience that foreign yoke, and eagerly deſired to throw it off. A hero, to whom it gave birth, accompliſhed that enterpriſe. Guſtavus Vaſa became legitimate ſovereign of his country, which he had delivered.

The north of Germany, which may be denominated Saxon Germany, becauſe it is the ancient Saxon race which there predominates, was divided into ſtates for the moſt part neither extenſive nor rich. They were connected with the ſouthern part of the empire only by the tie, at that time ſo lax, and ſo ill defined, of the Germanic confederacy. The emperor, at the ſame time, haraſſed without ceaſing by the Turks, had the moſt urgent motives for conciliating the Saxon princes, from whom he might obtain ſome aſſiſtance. That part of the empire had ſeen formed within its boſom, a formidable league of commercial cities, bound together by a common intereſt. The Teutonic *hanſe* was erected to reſiſt the pillage of the feudal robbers, who from their caſtles, or more properly ſpeaking, their dens, infeſted the highways in their neighbourhood, and plundered the merchants as they travelled from one fair to another. The cities of Lombardy, and thoſe on the Rhine, had formed ſimilar confederacies: and thoſe aſſociations of free men ſo beneficently active were among the ſmall number of eſtabliſhments, truly favourable to the human race, of which the modern nations have to boaſt at that early period.

Bohemia had in a particular manner exhibited to Europe the example of a republican ſpirit, but only in its application to the liberty of conſcience. The partizans of the martyr of Bohemia, John Huſs, had maintained by prodigies of bravery and firmneſs their religious faith. The Auſtrian princes had been unable to wreſt it from them. A capitulation had taken place between the prince and the ſubjects on the article of religion. This example appeared to invite the reſt of the Chriſtian world to emancipate themſelves in the ſame manner. It is not becauſe the brave Bohemians made uſe of the cup in the ſacrament that they were praiſeworthy, and the proper objects of emulation; but it is becauſe they did in this reſpect what their conſcience preſcribed, and becauſe they had the courage to vindicate to themſelves the right of doing ſo.

The ſouthern part of Germany was divided in a manner nearly ſimilar to that of the north; but its better half formed part of the ſtates of the coloſſal houſe of Auſtria, which inveſted, almoſt by hereditary title, with the imperial dignity, enriched with all the ſtates of Burgundy under Maximilian, with the crowns of Spain under Charles V. as well as with a portion of Italy, no longer even diſguiſed its deſign of an univerſal monarchy. That power poſſeſſed the preponderance at the beginning of the ſixteenth century, and threatened to ſwallow up all the reſt.

Mean while France, its noble rival, deſtined to contribute ſo powerfully to ſave Europe from that ignominy, had expelled from its ſoil the Engliſh, who ſo long contended for a part of it. The ſtanding mercenary army which the kings were obliged to

keep

keep up on that occaſion was of prodigious ſervice in enabling them to unite the provinces of the independent lords to the crown, to ſtrip the vaſſals, great and ſmall, and to ſtrengthen the monarchy at their expence. Louis XI. had in a great meaſure accompliſhed this aggrandizement of the regal power. Charles VIII. and Louis XII. had made trial in Italy of their arms againſt the imperial. In ſpite of their diſaſters they had at leaſt ſhewn that they might become formidable. After them Francis I. found himſelf at the head of a commanding power, and undoubtedly the firſt in Europe after that of Auſtria.

Between thoſe two powers, and at the expence of the former, had been formed a republic of mountaineers, ſimple, and energetic, who had firſt given credibility in modern Europe to what is related of the courage of the Spartans at Thermopylæ, and of their virtues in Laconia. The Swiſs had recovered the right, which all men recover when they can, of living independent, and of being their own maſters. They protected themſelves againſt Auſtria, of whoſe jealouſy they were aware, by fortifying themſelves with the friendſhip of the kings of France.

England, who had ſo long neglected the part which nature called her to act, that of a maritime power; who had ſo long waſted her ſtrength in the conqueſt or preſervation of ſome provinces in the weſt of France, had, at laſt, obtained, we may ſay, the good fortune to behold her armies expelled from the continent, and obliged to retire to their own iſland. This apparent loſs became a real advantage to the nation which turned, in the ſequel, its activity towards the eſtabliſhment of its liberty and its navy. It was not in the ſixteenth century what it has ſince become: but it was even then in the rank of the firſt powers of Europe; and Henry VIII. an inconſiſtent and violent prince, who began by writing in the ſtile of a theologian againſt Luther, and concluded by following his example, would have played in Europe a much more important part than he did, if, leſs occupied with his paſſions, his amours, and his cruelties, he had made a wiſer employment of his power.

Spain had long waſted her ſtrength, contending on her own ſoil with the Moors, who during ſome centuries poſſeſſed the fineſt part of it. At laſt thoſe conquerors were expelled. Ferdinand of Arragan, who had the honour of achieving this deliverance to Spain, married Iſabella, and thus joined the crown of Caſtile to that of Arragon. Thoſe united ſtates fell to Charles V. and Spain formed under him only a province of the vaſt Auſtrian monarchy.

Mean while the political ſyſtem, and the new ſpecies of warfare introduced, became daily more favourable to the greater powers. The invention of artillery, which rendered caſtles and mere walls altogether uſeleſs, produced the neceſſity of erecting

fortreſſes,

fortreſſes, too expenſive for the little princes and ſtates. Standing armies too ſecured to powerful princes a decided advantage over thoſe who could not ſupport the expence. The princes of the empire had more occaſion than ever to be afraid leſt Charles V. ſhould treat them as Louis XI. had treated the barons in France. Notwithſtanding this danger they continued to enfeeble themſelves by dividing their territories among their heirs, and giving portions of them to all their ſons, as if the people and the provinces had been their perſonal property. No perſon at this time called that right in queſtion.

The Europeans, hitherto confined to the old world, had lately penetrated beyond theſe bounds. The roads to India and to America were now opened. At the ſame time that bold navigators explored in this manner an ocean whoſe limits ſeemed to preclude that event, the minds of men appeared every where endeavouring to eſcape from that narrow ſphere of ideas, in which they had languiſhed for ages. The human race were viſibly advancing toward the maturity of a new era. A change in the order of things, an approaching commotion became no longer doubtful. The bowels of the volcano were heard to reſound; heated vapours were perceived eſcaping; and burning ſparks were ſeen flying through the gloom. Such was the portentous fermentation which appeared in the political ſtate of the nations at the opening of the ſixteenth century.

Tribute of Reſpect to the Memory of the late brave Major-General Frazer.

By Lieutenant-General Lord Lake.

[From the Calcutta Gazette of November 27, 1804.]

IN the battle fought by the Britiſh and native troops, led on by Major-General Frazer, on the 13th of November, 1804, when an important victory was obtained, this excellent officer received a ſevere wound in his leg, which rendered amputation neceſſary. After the operation was performed, great hopes were entertained that this diſtinguiſhed officer would recover, ſtill continue an ornament to his country, and be able to render it further ſervices. But, unfortunately, for ſeveral days before his deceaſe (which happened on the 24th of November), he appeared ſinking, from not being able to retain nouriſhment in his ſtomach, and a mortification took place, which terminated fatally, notwithſtanding every poſſible attention, and the utmoſt efforts of the faculty.

Lord Lake thus elegantly expreſſes his ſentiments on this much lamented event, in a letter to the Marquis Welleſley:

" Your lordſhip will partake in my feelings of ſincere ſorrow for the loſs of an eſteemed friend and a brave officer; and his country will mourn the death of a hero to whom ſhe is indebted for the moſt ſignal ſervice. His plan of attacking the enemy in the glorious battle of Deeg, evinces the higheſt military genius; his mode of carrying this into effect diſplays the greateſt judgement and ſagacity; and his conduct at the head of his army proves the moſt deliberate courage and determined reſolution. Advancing in front of his troops, his example animated them to the arduous enterpriſe. He continued to encourage them long after he had fallen, and his voice impelled them, 'till a complete and glorious victory crowned and rewarded his exertions. In lamenting the loſs of this brave officer, I have the conſoling reflection that his memory will remain dear in the breaſt of every ſoldier; that his ſplendid example will animate to future deeds of heroiſm; and that his fame and glory will be conſecrated and preſerved by a grateful and admiring country. The remains of poor Major General Fraſer were interred at Muttra on the evening of the 25th, and the laſt ſad honours due to his rank were paid by part of that army which he ſo lately led to victory and glory."

FASHIONS *for* MAY.

WE expect that the inſtallation plumes, ſo much admired, will bring oſtrich feathers into faſhion, eſpecially as dreſs hats are generally introduced in all the polite aſſemblies after Eaſter; but, at this moment, turbans are ſo univerſally worn, that they ſeem to preclude every other head-dreſs. Tiaras are much worn by very young ladies; many veils are ſtill viſible in full dreſs.

Morning Dress.

Chip and ſtraw hats of every deſcription, but thoſe of the Grecian ſhape the moſt elegant, as well as the moſt novel; thoſe of ſtraw, interwoven with imperial nets, are ſimple and becoming, and ornamented with flowers to ſuit. Silk hats and bonnets are alſo in faſhion; the barouche hats reſemble the gipſey, and are chiefly ſtraw. Black lace cloaks, and ſilk, lined with colours of every kind; muſlin and linen cloaks, lined chiefly with colours of pale blue, lilac, and ſtraw, and Spaniſh cloaks will be much worn this ſeaſon. The dreſſes are exactly the ſame as uſual: ſtill made with very long trains, and ſome cut up ſhort in front, and extremely long behind. The inſtallation mantle, made of different colours, falls in graceful drapery from the ſhoulders, and faſtens to the waiſt with a diamond medallion. Short muſlin dreſſes, trimmed all round with painted velvet border, to imitate the variegated graſs; ſhort dreſſes of

crape,

crape, or ſpangled crape with patent lace, embroidered with ſilver, let in in front and all round the bottom, are alſo faſhionable. *Tulle* is more faſhionable for trimming dreſſes than broad lace. White ſatin dreſſes will be worn the whole of this month. White ſarſnet, ſprigged lenoes, muſlins, &c. &c. The morning dreſſes are with high collars, long ſleeves, made to the form in front, and button on behind; leno peliſes, lined with colours, are much worn; alſo coloured ſpencers covered with ſprigged muſlins.

Particulars of the Comforts provided for the Sick Poor in the Pariſh of Chipping Ongar, in Eſſex.

IN the pariſh of Chipping Ongar, there is provided for the uſe of the poor, in time of ſickneſs, not only bed-linen and a wrapping flannel gown, but alſo a large, eaſy, wicker chair, with a head to it, a bed chair, and a ſtand for a candleſtick, with a convenient apparatus for a pannikin at the top, in which any kind of liquid may be heated merely by a ruſhlight. Theſe articles with blankets which are diſtributed among the poor in winter, and are required to be returned in warm weather, are kept at the work-houſe, and may be obtained on application. The chair, which is alſo made to anſwer the purpoſe of a night-chair, being of wicker, is lighter and more eaſily carried about than a wooden chair, and has been provided at a reaſonable expence, having coſt only one pound ſix ſhillings. It has likewiſe the advantage of being eaſily waſhed, as the lining, which is wadded, is only tied in with tapes; and being hooded, it affords a ſhelter to the patient againſt the wind. The candleſtick is of modern contrivance, conſiſting of a tube, with a kind of baſon at the top of it, both of which are filled with water. In this tube a ruſhlight is placed, which, as it waſtes in burning, is raiſed by the water, and kept always at the ſame height, by which means it is ſufficiently near to the pannekin, fixed in a frame above it, to warm any liquor it contains.

The want of ſome conveniencies of this kind muſt have been frequently noticed by thoſe who are in the habit of viſiting the ſick cottager and his family. Many a poor perſon has been prevented from ſitting up, when it was adviſeable to do ſo, by not having any thing to ſit in but a common chair, which does not afford the ſupport to be found in an eaſy chair, nor the warmth and comfort to be derived from a wrapping-flannel gown, aided by the lining of the chair; and when the weakneſs of a patient has rendered his removal from the bed almoſt impoſſible, the want of a bed-chair has been ill-ſupplied by ſome perſon ſup-

porting the patient during the time of adminiſtering either medicine or food.

The difficulty which poor families experience in obtaining a change of bed-linen, during ſickneſs, is very obvious, nor is it a trifling inconvenience, that out of a ſcanty pittance, they are ſometimes compelled to keep a fire during the night, when the ſtate of the patient would not require it for warmth, and when the heat of a candle, if they had the means of applying it properly, would be ſufficient for the purpoſe of warming any liquid. If it ſhould appear that theſe domeſtic comforts of the ſick poor may be provided in a pariſh at a very trifling expence, it is not too much to hope that this mode of alleviating the ſufferings of the ſick, and of accelerating their recovery, will be adopted by other pariſhes.

Account of Mr. Abraham Underdown's Patent for a Mode of making Flour without Grain.

WE ſhall preſent our readers with a deſcription of Mr. Underdown's invention in his own words:—"I take turnips, potatoes, parſnips, white-beet, and Jeruſalem artichokes, and grind or grate them fine: I then put the ſubſtance into water, and let it remain there ſeveral hours; I then ſtrain off the water, and add freſh water in quantity ſufficient to cover the ſubſtance; which proceſs I continue to repeat until the water pours off quite clear. Then I ſtrain and preſs the water from the vegetable ſubſtance, which I then dry on a kiln, or other proper convenience. When the ſubſtance is quite dry I grind it in a corn or other proper mill, until it becomes fine flour. Either of the above vegetables alone, or any two or more of them mixed together, and prepared as before ſpecified, will anſwer the purpoſe. The foregoing deſcription is for the making coarſe or common flour: when I make fine or beſt flour, I pare or peel the rine off the vegetables before I grind or grate them."

Obſervations.—The patentee would have done well to have pointed out the important uſes to which this patent flour, made without corn, is applicable.

SPECIMEN *of* ORTHOGRAPHY.

A Letter was lately put into the poſt-office, Glaſgow, with the following direction upon it—"Hir ſhe goes to Embroch to Donal my brither ſherman to a ſhermans-meſſer dun a back cloſs yea ſtair up in the Cugait Embroch if that no be fin hir ut the Dill no be fin hir ut me deman you no to pit poſt on hir but let her gang free."

Anſwer, by T. Adey, of Poole, to G. Baker's Charade, inſerted February 4.

A CAPON is the fowl you mean,
As in your charade's plainly ſeen.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from J. B. B. of Poole.

Anſwer, by T. Bullock, of St. Columb, to J. Paſcal's Enigma, inſerted March 4.

'TIS JEALOUSY I think you mean,
The ſource of many a grief and pain.

*** We have received the like anſwer from T. Whicker, and P. Gove, of Exeter; T. Bullock, of St. Columb; Adrianus; J. Chubb, of Everſhot; W. Gifford, of South Petherton; Primroſe, of Taunton; T. Adey, of Poole; W. Mann, Aſhburton; G. Hann, jun. of Stoke Abbot; A. Kyne, jun. of Dartmouth; Cornwallina, of St. Teath; and T. Kite, of Stockland.

Anſwer, by Y. Z. of Frogmore, to T. Jarvis's Charade, inſerted March 4.

IT is by FRIENDSHIP, that the yoke of life
Doth ſit more eaſy on the human mind;
To counterbalance all the care and ſtrife
That every mortal, more or leſs, muſt find.

† We have received the like anſwer from G. Hann, jun. of Stoke Abbot; W. Mann, of Aſhburton; T. Bullock, of St. Columb, W. Gard, of Gittiſham; William Gifford of South Petherton; J. Chubb, of Everſhot; Adrianus; Aſtrologus, of Dock; Primroſe, of Taunton; G. Coulman, of Broadhempſton; J. Lewis, of Poole; T. Whicker, of Exeter; and A. Kyne, jun. of Dartmouth.

A CHARADE, *by J. Lewis, of Poole.*

AN animal of chace will bring my firſt to view;
My ſecond is oft worn by many, it is true:
My firſt and ſecond join, they'll bring unto your ſight
A very pretty flower, ſo ſend the anſwer right.

A CHARADE, *by Cornubia, of St. Teath.*

A Joiner's tool firſt bring to mind;
My next what's repreſented find;
Theſe parts conjoin'd will ake appear
A place in Somerſet quite clear.

A REBUS, *by S. Moore, of Horſwell Houſe.*

A Dainty fiſh firſt call to mind;
A meaſure alſo you muſt find;
A Hampſhire town muſt next be found;
A tree that ſtands on Britiſh ground:

Join the initials, right and true,
An inſect then you'll bring to view;
The inſect, if tranſpos'd aright,
A bird of prey you'll have in ſight.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

CRAZY MARY.

SAY, gentle ſtranger, haſt thou ſeen
My cruel William ſtraying?
Ah whither has my charmer been
My faithful heart betraying.

I call him from the azure deep,
With tears and ſighs diſtreſſing,
But fate decrees me ſtill to weep,
And robs me of my bleſſing.

I fain would ſeek my William's form,
And to the ocean turn me;
But O! the cruel billows ſtorm,
And from their boſoms ſpurn me.

This garland for his brow I wove,
But woe to me that made it,
It tells me that my William's love,
Is, like its flow'rets, faded.

Now ſee the ſullen night appears,
And warns me to my pillow;
Yet William ſcorns my piteous tears,
And ſlumbers on the billow.

But know, kind ſtranger, ere we part,
My love ſhall never vary;
Tho' Mary boaſts not William's heart,
He boaſts the heart of Mary.

COLIN.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

The Felon to Himſelf, on being diſturbed at his Meditations by the Bell announcing the Time for his Execution.

HARK! 'tis the knell, the hour is come,
And are my moments flown ſo ſoon?
Ah! life, thy thread is almoſt ſpun.
Few minutes hence will ſeal my doom.

Low ſinks my ſoul: my heart ſtrings break,
And agitation rends my frame:
Aſſiſt me Lord! for mercy's ſake,
Nor let my dying pray'r be vain.

Support my ſoul while I ſuſtain
The dreadful ſhock which ſtops my breath;
And when I feel convulſion's pain,
O ſoothe me while I ſtrive with death.

And when my ſoul ſhall take her flight,
From her abode of mortal clay,

Let

Let ſeraphs guide the trembler right,
To meet thee in the realms of day.

London, April 21. J. PASCAL.

The FARMER's TREASURE.

Written by Mr. CHERRY.

WHEN the grey eye of morn peeps out from the eaſt,
Then the farmer abandons his pillow:
If he lies to enjoy the ſoft bleſſing afreſh,
Until Sol riſes forth from the billow,
The fruits of paſt labour, by ſlothful neglect,
In the womb of cold earth he has ſlighted;
Then the farmer laments that he careleſsly ſlept,
Whilſt the bloſſom of induſtry's blighted.
But the ſecret is known
To poor farmers alone,
Whoſe firſt pride, whoſe delight, and whoſe pleaſure,
Is to view o'er the land
Nature's bountiful hand
Scatter plenty, the farmer's beſt treaſure, his pleaſure,
The farmer, the farmer's ſure treaſure.

Now the dew-drop of eve is ſhed from the ſkies,
And the farmer his work has completed,
Then home to his cottage he cheerfully hies,
'Mongſt his neighbours and family ſeated:
A jug of brown nappy, oblivion of toil,
With a friend and his wife is quaff'd cheerly;
He toaſts his good landlord, he bleſſes the ſoil,
And his dame and his offſpring loves dearly;
Now this pleaſure is known
To poor farmers alone,
Whoſe firſt pride, whoſe delight, and whoſe pleaſure,
Is to view o'er the land
Nature's bountiful hand
Scatter plenty, the farmer's beſt treaſure, his pleaſure,
The farmer, the farmer's ſure treaſure.

Addreſs to Mr. H——, on his releaſing a Bird caught by Lime.

HUMANITY's a debt the happy owe
To thoſe who miſery's ſorrow know;
Pleaſure delightful, the wretched to aſſiſt,
Drive grief away, and clear miſfortune's miſt!
Let Greece of her great Alexander ſing,
And Cæſar's praiſe thro' Heaven's high arches ring,
For kingdoms conquer'd, and for ravag'd towns,
Fam'd were their victoires, laurels were their crowns.
What their reward, but the ſhrill orphan's cry,
The tender parent's tear, the wretched widow's ſigh?
Thy triumphs, generous H——, far nobler be,
In ſetting one poor trembling captive free:
For ſmiling pity, ſoft celeſtial maid,
Applauds the deed, the muſes lend their aid,
Be this my humble verſe, thy praiſe to ſing:
The flattering warbler, now again on wing,
Thro' the wide region of created air
Shall thy kind act and gentle ſoul declare!
To Heaven's high chancery its notes ſhall riſe,
And grateful carols echo thro' the ſkies.

Canterbury.